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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/811,930	03/19/2001	Ryuichiro Kodama	1743/180	9650

26646 7590 09/03/2003

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EXAMINER

CHARIOUI, MOHAMED

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2857

DATE MAILED: 09/03/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/811,930	KODAMA, RYUICHIRO	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Mohamed Charioui	2857	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 2 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 June 2003.

2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 15-19 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) 15-19 is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on 19 March 2001 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.

If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:

- 1) Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
- 2) Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
- 3) Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) _____.

5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) Other: _____

Ex Parte Quayl

1. Applicant cancelled claims 1-14.

Specification

2. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

In page 13, line 10 change "230" to --320--.

In page 15, line 24, change "timer 300" to --330--.

In page 22, line 3, change "center 201" to --center 200--.

Appropriate correction is required.

Drawings

3. **Figure 1** is objected to because of the following informalities: the label in the box 310 should be changed to --maintenance control section--.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Objections

4. **Claims 15-19** are objected to because of the following informalities:

In page 2, line 20 of the amendment change "do not agree with" to --do not match--. Appropriate correction is required.

Allowable Subject Matter

5. **Claims 15-19** would be allowable if the objection is overcome.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: none of the prior art of record teaches or suggests a maintenance history storage unit is installed in the maintenance center; and when the communication channel between the maintenance center and the apparatus-to-be-maintained is

connected, the maintenance history storage unit compares the maintenance history recorded at the last connection of the communication channel in the maintenance history storage unit in the maintenance center with the maintenance history recorded in the maintenance history storage unit in the maintenance monitor mechanism, and if the two records match each other, the remote maintenance is carried out, and if the two records do not match with each other, the communication channel is shut down.

Prior art

6. The prior art made record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

Gray et al. ['793] disclose communication server for communicating with a remote device.

Makel et al. ['050] disclose remotely controllable LNG field station management and method.

Steen, III et al. ['350] disclose remote data access and system control.

7. Prosecution on the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for reply to this action is set to expire TWO MONTHS from the mailing date of this letter

Contact information

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication from examiner should be directed to Mohamed Charioui whose telephone number is 703 605-4362. The examiner can normally be reached Monday to Friday 9 am to 6 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Marc S. Hoff can be reached at 703 308-1677. The fax phone number for the organization where this application is assigned is 703 305-3431.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the group receptionist whose number is 703 308-0956.

Mohamed Charioui

8/24/03

Hal Wachsman
HAL WACHSMAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER
AV 207